



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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February 23, 2007

**EL PASO BROTHERS SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON  
FOR CONSPIRING TO HARBOR ILLEGAL ALIENS**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton announced that in El Paso this morning, Romualdo Soto was sentenced to five months in federal prison followed by five months home confinement for conspiring to Harbor Illegal Aliens. In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Frank Montalvo ordered Soto to pay a \$10,000 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On February 1, 2007, Judge Montalvo sentenced Romualdo's brother, Jose Cruz Soto, to four months in federal prison followed by four months of home confinement. Judge Montalvo also ordered that Jose Cruz Soto pay a \$1,000 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of three years after completing his prison term.

On November 13, 2006, the brothers admitted to harboring and working illegal aliens at Soto's Rock Quarry, located in a remote location approximately 4 miles south on Gas Line Road, in El Paso County. The defendants, who are also the owners of the quarry would contract with smugglers to bring the aliens from Tornillo, Mexico, to the quarry where the Soto brothers would pay the smuggling debts.

This case was investigated by the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, U.S. Border Patrol, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It was prosecuted for the government by Assistant United States Attorney Brandy Gardes.

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